

HILTON PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MAY 2006

CHAIRMANS REPORT

At the AGM in May 2005 I was elected to Chair the Council: Greg Rice was elected as Vice Chair following the resignation of Peter Edwards.

Parish Councillor Peter Edwards resigned due to personal reasons and has been replaced by Piet Walton-Knight who was co opted. We also saw the loss of our bookings clerk Sue Smith who was replaced by Ben Dowell. Ben is now handling the bookings and the caretaking for the PC.

We have also seen a change in the police presence in the village. PC Chris Fetherston was replaced by PC Richard Prowdler. We also were allocated two PCSOs. Elaine Porter and Adam Thompson Who do an excellent job and are regularly seen patrolling the village. They have also established a base in the Wellbrook Medical Centre, sadly a staffed Police Station in Hilton hasn't materialised, but there is still a possibility.

The land swap for the primary school has been agreed and plans for the new 4 classroom block have been passed. There were concerns regarding the proposed turning circle as it was withdrawn from the planning application and was subsequently passed without it. However the following statement was made by the planning committee at County Hall.

Resolved (1) that planning permission be granted subject to the following

To ensure that the proposed new classroom block shall not be brought into use until the County Planning Authority has approved a revised travel plan for the school which will include either the provision of a vehicular dropping off point or other measures which are designed to minimise the use of the private car in relation to the pupil journeys to the school.

Details have yet to be released.

Hilton Harriers in joint partnership with the Parish Council were successful in their bid to the Football Foundation and have been awarded £300,000 towards The Mease Pavilion and pitches project which we expect to start in August and due to be completed by January 2007. Working in partnership with Hilton Harriers and SDDC, is one of the exciting challengers which lies ahead in the next 12months for the Parish Council. The result of which will provide a wonderful facility for not only Hilton Harriers, but the Hilton community as a whole Our thanks go to SDDC in particular James Miller whose involvement was instrumental in putting the bid together.

For 2006/7 the precept was set to raise £37500 (05/06 precept was £28000). The reason for this was to cover the rising cost of maintaining Parish Council facilities and in anticipation for the start of groundwork's in connection with the Village Plan This work will be carried out around the Village Hall and Back Lane Playing Fields area and is estimated to cost somewhere in the region of £2million. While some section 106 money is available to help with the capital cost we will have to provide funding

for maintenance and the day to day running of the facilities. The work in this area for phase one is due to start late September.

As yet the takeover of the Village Hall is not yet complete; however we do anticipate it to be concluded before the end of the year.

We have recently seen the Parish Council move into the 21st century, electronically that is, (actual PC meetings have yet to make that leap), by means of a website. **www.Hiltonparishcouncil.org.uk** our thanks go to Councillor Greg Rice for all his hard work in this achievement and the subsequent running and up dating of the site. It is well worth a look, tennis courts and football pitches can also be booked on line. Our thanks go also to our passed councillor Peter Edwards who produced the last edition of the Hilton Newsletter. Due to the size of the village and the cost of printing it was decided to join forces with the very popular Hilton Directory and our thanks go to Fiona at the Directory, for kindly allowing us to include Parish Council news in it on a quarterly basis. The next being the June edition (it's tipped to be on the best sellers list very soon).

On behalf of the council, I thank our staff. Groundsman Mr. Hall and Lengthsman Mr. Woolliscroft for all their hard work with an ever increasing work load. Also Ben Dowell the booking clerk and caretaker and Mary Wright and Jenny Keery who have both stood in for Ben while on a 2 month sabbatical. A big **thank you** to our District councillors Roma Walton and Margaret Littlejohn for their help with District matters and Councillor Frank Hood for representing us at County level. I thank all the members of the Parish Council for their enthusiastic work on the council and its sub-committees and for supporting me during my first ever term as Chair.

Finally on a sad note we are to say goodbye to our long serving and suffering Clerk John Walton. John has been the clerk for the passed 7 years and has seen a huge change in Hilton Village over that time. His knowledge and expertise has been invaluable, but due to the demands on his time and the massive increase in work load, along with several other factors, he has made the decision to hand up his Parish Council hat and settles into a life of retirement. We wish him all the best for the future along with our gratitude for the many years of service he has given to the council and Hilton Village as a whole.